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## CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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## INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

CD NO.

COUNTRY Korea

DATE DISTR. 12 June 1952

SUBJECT North Korean Recruitment of Troops, Agents,  
and Farmers

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25X INEO. [REDACTED]NO. OF ENCLS.  
(LISTED BELOW)PLACE  
ACQUIRED [REDACTED]SUPPLEMENT TO  
REPORT NO.

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Military Conscription

1. In early January 1952 myon people's committee members in the Wonsan area of North Korea registered all males between 16 and 45 years of age and all females between 16 and 25 years of age. These people were to be conscripted by 1 April 1952 for military service. Authorities warned that those who refused or evaded the registration would be tried by a court martial and if found reactionary would be severely punished or shot. In connection with this new registration it was required that 1951 military certificates be renewed for the year 1952.

Agent Recruitment

2. Approximately 1 January 1952 CH'OE Yong-kon (1508/6978/0256), North Korean Minister of Defense, ordered the Fatherland Preservation Support Association Committees for provinces (do) and counties (gun) to have the district (myon) and village (ri) units select persons to become low-level military espionage agents in South Korea. There were so few volunteers that the cell leaders had to resort to lottery to select two persons to fill the monthly quota for each village.

Farmer Recruitment

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3. In early January 1952 the North Korean government authorities registered farmers throughout all North Korea for the purpose of their emigrating to Manchuria. Farmers who were selected were organized into units or teams of five families each, and approximately 500 families left for Manchuria on 17 February.<sup>2</sup>
4. PAK Han-so, a cell leader for the Labor Party of Yōnan-ūp (126-10, 37-54) (BS-5198), stated at a meeting of the Yōnan-ūp Labor Party in February that to ease the severe shortage of farmers 1,000 farmers and their families would be moved from the north to Yōnan-ūp.<sup>3</sup>
5. On 27 and 28 February the Chinese Communist troops guarding the coastal area of Yōnan-ūp were relieved by North Korean troops and were assembled in inland towns and villages. Several North Korean soldiers had come from the eastern front via P'yōngyang and their duty was to cultivate about 500 acres of land in the area and protect the coast.<sup>3</sup> These troops wore regular North Korean army uniforms, and approximately two rifles or sub-machine guns were allotted to each 20 to 30 men; the unarmed troops carried farming implements.

1. [REDACTED] Comment. For further information on military conscription in North Korea see [REDACTED]
2. [REDACTED] Comment. About 70 to 80 percent of the people who left for Manchuria volunteered because of the difficult living conditions in North Korea.
3. [REDACTED] Comment. Note that this conflicts with paragraph 3. See also paragraph 5. The arrival of a "farmers army" in parts of Hwanghae Province near the coast and the front line has also been reported by other agencies.

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